



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



MINUTES

Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board
July 1, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako Wakita at 12:00 Noon. Secretary, Janet Baker called the roll and the following members were present: Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Marianne Freeman, Dingle, Ireland; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan; Peter Haslund, Weihai, China, Alt. No representative from San Juan, Philippines. Guest, George Lilly, Kotor, Montenegro. Roger Horton, City Council Representative and Linda Gunther, Staff Representative.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the May 6, 2009 were approved as amended. Under the paragraph to approve the city of Kotor, Montenegro as a Sister City, delete the first sentence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Linda Gunther announced the presentation to City Council for approval of Kotor, Montenegro as a Sister City will be on the Agenda on July 21, 2009. Linda also reported that due to Budget cuts this year the City has only allocated \$800.00 for Sister Cities Board which will pay the SCI dues and rental of Cabrillo Arts Center for the UN Day celebration. Linda also has mailed new Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board rosters to members. Takako reported she had made a tentative reservation for the display case at the Main Library for 2011. Takako also said she had not received Annual Reports from the representatives and she needs them by July 15th. Takako will be attending the SCI Conference in Belfast, Ireland on July 29th and needs to compile the Annual Report before she leaves.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2009: Peter Haslund reported he will be taking a group of teachers to Weihai, China on August 16th. No other additions or corrections to the calendar.

9-11 CONCERT: At the July meeting it was decided to contact the Santa Barbara Music Club re: co-sponsoring the 9-11 Concert this year. Takako said she had met with them and they have agreed, they will also be providing the entertainment in addition to the Sister Cities and it will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Society Hall. Each representative will be responsible for notifying their members of this event and encouraging them to attend. Takako thanked Roger Horton for his help in securing the Music Clubs sponsoring and the location. Janet Baker and Marianne Freeman volunteered to help with the Reception following the Concert. Each representative is encouraged to bring brochures to display. Dr. Haslund said he would get some International students to bring and set up 20 international flags. Roger Horton suggested having a donation basket at the entrance to help defray the costs and he also suggested putting an announcement about the Concert on Geoff Greene's Website.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY TV (Ch. 17) Wayne Hewitt reported he had met with director at Channel 17 regarding the Sister Cities participation and was told that if each Sister City would send a

representative to the station to be trained on the use of their equipment they can then show their program for no charge. Takako asked that a representative from each Sister City work with Wayne to pull this project together.

UN ITED NATIONS CELEBRATION OCTOBER 22ND: In the essence of time it was decided to table this discussion until the September meeting.

SCI ADVOCACY - STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S IMAGE PROGRAM: Takako reported she had called SCI and was told the House of Representatives had already rejected this program. After due discussion it was decided that we would not support this program.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Dingle, Ireland: Marianne Freeman said she had talked with Carey Rogers and Erin Graffy and they are going to try to get things organized again. Also, considering a trip to Dingle in 2010.

Weihai, China: Dr. Peter Haslund reported the group is planning to reorganize in the Fall and he is still working on getting a representatives from Weihai to visit Santa Barbara.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: David Gorbet reported the students from Puerto Vallarta will be recognized at a Bar-B-Que at Shoreline Park on July 21st. Guests from Puerto Vallarta will be arriving on July 31st and will be much smaller group this year.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported the student exchange was cancelled this year due to the Swine Flu scare. They are hoping to start a pen pal project for this year in lieu of the exchange visits. The group is planning a bus trip to Descanso Gardens in the Fall.

Takako called on George Lilly for a report on the Kotor, Montenegro progress. He said that the delegation from Kotor which was planned to visit Santa Barbara this summer was cancelled due to the Swine Flu. He circulated pictures of the Fund Raising Dinner held at a private home and attended by 50 people raised \$5000.00 which will be used to send a Chef to Kotor to train some students in an orphanage in Kotor how to be food service workers. They are also planning an exchange of Water Polo players during July. Wayne Hewitt and George Lilly will attend the City Council meeting on July 21st to present the city of Kotor, Montenegro for approval as a Sister City for Santa Barbara.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet M. Baker